

how can any of us be lost? We never shall be. But do not jump onto the car and ride, instead of trying to do something to help keep the car in motion. Do not jump on, as did some women who crossed the Plains last season. They jumped onto the hand-cart and made the men draw them, until the men died.

The true seed of the house of

Israel are coming out of the world, and the Saints are shut up in the mountains to learn and practice those principles which pertain to salvation in the celestial kingdom of our God, and my prayer is that we may be enabled to accomplish the gathering of Israel and the redemption of Zion. Amen.

OUR RELATIVES, THOSE WHO DO THE WILL OF GOD—THE ELDERS SHOULD BE AS FATHERS AND SHEPHERDS IN ISRAEL, AND NOT AS MASTERS—SELF-CONFIDENCE, AND THE WAY TO OBTAIN IT—THE PROPHET JOSEPH NOT YET RESURRECTED—PREACHING TO THE SPIRITS IN PRISON, ETC.

A DISCOURSE BY PRESIDENT BRIGHAM YOUNG, DELIVERED IN THE TABERNACLE,
GREAT SALT LAKE CITY, MARCH 15, 1857

Recorded by G. D. Watt

I am not in the habit of taking a text, when I preach to the Saints; but I will quote a portion of Scripture, and offer a few remarks upon it.

It is recorded, concerning the Savior Matthew xii. 46-50, that “While he yet talked to the people, behold his mother and his brethren stood without, desiring to speak with him. Then one said unto him, Behold thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee. But he answered and said unto him that told him, Who is my mother? and who are my brethren? And he stretched forth his hand towards his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.”

The Savior’s reply to the questions,

“Who is my mother? and who are my brethren?” is fraught with a principle that is very little noticed by many. I frequently hear the brethren, and you may hear both them and the sisters, in the prayer meetings, where they have a privilege of speaking, say, “I have not a father, mother, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, first nor second cousin, nor any relative whatever in this Church.” Do you not hear such expressions made by the Saints? Yes; and I sometimes hear them from this stand.

Whether to the understanding of his hearers at that time, or whether to ours, those questions were correctly answered by our Savior in the observation, “For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.” So far as I am concerned, I do not claim relationship